Amendment in the Press and Registration of Books Act

152. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any move has been made to amend the Press and Registration of Books Act in view of Government's decision to allow foreign newspapers and periodicals published in facsimile editions from India;

(b) whether it is not a fact that there are some guidelines and on the basis of these International Herald Tribune is being published in India from Hyderabad; and

(c) if so, what is the need to amend the PRB Act?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) There are no guidelines on the basis of which International Herald Tribune is being published in India. Certain loopholes in the existing legislation led to its publication, which are now proposed to be plugged.

(c) The Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 is very old and as such a move has been initiated to amend the same to bring it in line with the present times.

Losses by NFDC

153. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Film Development Corporation is suffering huge financial loss due to non-realisation of dues amount to crores of rupees from the advertisement agents;

(b) if so, the details of the advertisement agents and the amount to be recovered from them; and

(c) the action being taken for recovery of dues?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The National Film Development

Corporation has been marketing Commercial Time on the slots allotted by Doordarshan to various advertising agencies and many of the agencies have defaulted in payment of dues.

(b) Recovery of dues could not be effected due to discontinuance of the marketing of Commercial Time of Doordarshan by the Corporation since September, 2003 as Doordarshan started marketing its Commercial Time on its own. The details of the defaulting agencies are in the Statement (*See* below);

(c) The steps taken by the Corporation for recovery of outstanding dues are as follows:

(i) Discussions with the agencies are in progress for reconciliation of accounts and clarifications wherever required for making payments.

(ii) Officials of the Corporation are taking follow up action individually for recovery.

(iii) A special audit has been initiated to examine thoroughly the details of outstanding dues and the recoverability of the amounts.

(iv) Legal notices have been served on agencies who have not come forward for settlement.

(v) A Cell has been constituted for recovery of outstanding dues and for serving legal notices and initiating appropriate proceedings by way of filing suit/criminal cases against the defaulting agencies.

Statement

The details of the defaulting agencies

S.No.	Name of the Agency	(Rupees in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Aditya Enterprises, Indore	35.58
2.	M/s. A & A Films, Delhi	94.31
3.	M/s. Cine Penta Pvt. Ltd.	374.90
4.	M/s. Creative Channel	314.71

1	2	3
5.	M/s. Hindustan Thompsons Associates	700.27
6.	M/s. Indradhanush	104.42
7.	M/s. IPSEM Healthcare Limited	95.86
8.	M/s. Mudra Communications P. Ltd.	49.65
9.	M/s. Ogilvy & Mather Advt.	32.31
10.	M/s. Popular Ent. Work	60.60
11.	M/s. Prachar Communication Ltd.	226.83
12.	M/s. R.K. Swamy/BBDO Ad. P. Ltd.	14.29
13.	M/s. Rediffussion	13.66
14.	M/s. Sanitex Chemicals Ltd., Indore	43.24
15.	M/s. Ulka Advertising	16.30
16.	M/s. WPP Marketing (Mumbai)	23.78
	TOTAL:	2200.71

Programmes for children on DD

154. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether children viewers of Doordarshan (DD) especially in the age group of 4-10 years are perennially starved of entertainment/ informative programmes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the salient details of the CPC produced programmes for children which were introduced during the last five years alongwith their telecast frequencies and infrastructure/resources dedicated to it;

(d) whether cartoon films telecast by private channels, mostly produced in foreign countries are immensely popular among children;

(e) whether DD contemplates establishing in-house unit engaging talents in animation art for production of cartoon films based on traditional folklores, namely Panchatantra, Jataka Stories etc; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?